Probation Committee Judicial Conference of Indiana

Minutes April 20, 2007

The Probation Committee of the Judicial Conference of Indiana met at the Indiana Judicial Center in Indianapolis, Indiana on April 20, 2007.

- 1. <u>Members present.</u> The following members of the Probation Committee were present: Julie Cantrell, David Chidester, Thomas Lett, Becky McClure, Steve Nation, and Mark Stoner, chair.
- **2. Staff present.** Jenny Bauer, Michelle Goodman and Jane Seigel provided staff assistance to the Committee.
- **3.** Others present. Eric Zimmerman, immediate past president of the Probation Officers Professional Association of Indiana (POPAI), attended the meeting as a guest.
- **4. Approval of minutes.** The minutes from March 2, 2007 were approved.
- **5. POPAI field academy.** Eric Zimmerman made a presentation to the Committee regarding POPAI's new field academy for probation officers. Mr. Zimmerman distributed a brochure and handouts with details about the academy and explained that the idea fir the academy came from the death of an Allen County probation officer killed while doing a field visit in 1997. He stated that he has had a keen interest in probation officer safety since that time. Mr. Zimmerman explained that he worked with the Allen County Sheriff's office to devise the field academy. The trainers for the academy are all certified trainers for the Indiana Law Enforcement Academy. The curriculum for the academy is 60 hours of basic training and 20 hours of optional firearms certification. The first academy is scheduled for June 11-22 in Fort Wayne.
- 6. McVey case. Jenny Bauer distributed a copy of McVey v. State. She explained that the Court of Appeals issued the opinion on March 30th and found that two of the current recommended special probation conditions for sex offenders were overly broad. She highlighted that condition #14 was found to be overly broad because the term "dating relationship" was insufficiently clear and condition #17 was found to be overly broad because "incidental contact with persons under 18" was also insufficiently clear. Ms. Bauer informed the Committee that the Judicial Center staff would be watching the case to see if a petition for transfer was filed and would work on alternate language to use for the conditions.
- 7. 2007 Annual Meeting for probation officers. Jenny Bauer reported that the Annual Meeting would be held May 3-4 at the Convention Center in downtown Indianapolis. The keynote speaker is Ray Fern, who will speak on evidence based practices and how to bring about change in probation departments and with probationers

- **8.** <u>Intrastate Transfer.</u> The Committee continued its discussion of intrastate transfer of probation and reviewed the document prepared by Judge Nation. The Committee continued revising the intrastate transfer procedures. Judge Stoner asked Jenny Bauer and Michelle Goodman to "clean up" the document based on committee suggestions and distribute it to the Committee for further review.
- **9.** Next meeting. The next meeting of the Probation Committee is scheduled for July 27, 2007.

Respectfully submitted,

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